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# Security Council

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## Letter dated 9 January 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached report from Bangladesh, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Counter-Terrorism Committee

02-23385 (E) 120402

## Annex

### Letter dated 8 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the report prepared on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) by the authorities in the People's Republic of Bangladesh. This report outlines measures taken and contemplated measures for the full and effective implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). These actions range from initiatives taken at the national level immediately following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 to specific instructions to the government ministries and agencies in line with the obligations flowing from the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001) in the areas of monitoring and freezing of bank accounts, movement and activities across the international borders, internal vigilance of such activities, verification of travel documents etc. Customs procedures relating to passenger clearance are also being strictly enforced. The report also indicates the need for technical support and assistance in the course of implementation of the provisions of the resolution for modernizing border control and immigration procedures and banking mechanisms, including through computerization and training of personnel. It has also been emphasized that exchange of information and coordination of efforts at the regional level would effectively contribute to combating terrorism.

The present report is being submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). I should be grateful if you could arrange to circulate the present letter along with the report as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Iftekhar Ahmed **Chowdhury**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh
to the United Nations

**Enclosure**

## Report on the actions taken by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

Bangladesh's commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations has been principled and consistent. Bangladesh has always expressed support for and remained committed to international efforts to combat terrorism. In keeping with her commitment, Bangladesh joined the international community in condemning the terrorist attacks on the United States on 11 September 2001 and expressed total solidarity with all international efforts to fight terrorism. As an elected member of the Security Council, Bangladesh has been actively supportive of and closely associated with the adoption of all relevant resolutions both in the UN General Assembly and the Security Council following the terrorist attacks and remains committed to their full implementation.

Bangladesh has taken a series of measures to implement Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) aimed at effectively contributing to international efforts to counter terrorism, and is determined to pursue on a consistent and continued basis such efforts to address in a comprehensive manner the issue of international terrorism. This report outlines the measures taken and contemplated to be taken for the full and effective implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

**Actions taken:**

1. Immediately following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, a Task Force was set up in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for monitoring the developments and for developing an effective response to the unfolding situation.

2. Extensive consultations were undertaken with a view to eliciting views and suggestions from a wide spectrum of people involved in the policy making process, including through a Conclave of former Foreign Ministers and former Foreign Secretaries organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to arrive at a national consensus on Bangladesh's possible response in the international fight against terrorism.

3. The Council of Advisers to the Government met in a special meeting on 18 September 2001 and in the light of Bangladesh's national interest and its commitment to relevant Security Council resolutions, including 1269 (1999), 1333 (2000) and 1368 (2001), decided to continue Bangladesh's support to efforts aimed at forging international coalition against terrorism as well as all relevant actions of the United Nations in this regard. In that spirit and commitment, Bangladesh responded favourably to the request made by the United States for over flight and refueling facilities and the use of Bangladeshi airfields and seaports for possible multinational action to combat terrorism.

4. As a show of solidarity, special prayers were organized in places of worship of all religious denominations for the victims of the 11 September terrorist attacks.

5. The Director General (UN) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been designated as the national focal point for coordinating national efforts for the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and to liaise with the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee.

6. All concerned government Ministries and agencies were informed of the provisions of the resolution 1373 (2001) and advised to strictly ensure their implementation. Similarly, other relevant resolutions, including subsequent lists of terrorist organizations/entities as provided by the Security Council Counter Terrorism Committee were circulated to all concerned authorities. Inter-ministerial/agency consultations were undertaken to monitor and coordinate efforts in this regard at the national level.

7. All banks operating in the country were advised to monitor, freeze and report back on whether they maintained any accounts or had transactions with any of the organizations/entities alleged to have links with terrorist activities, as per the list circulated by the Counter Terrorism Committee. All banks have reported that they do not maintain accounts of any of these organizations or entities. The banks have been advised to continue to monitor and remain vigilant to any future such transactions.

8. Following the terrorist attacks of 11 September and the adoption of resolution 1373 (2001), all international borders and bordering areas have been put on high alert to monitor the movement and activities of terrorist organizations or outfits. There have been stepped-up vigilance internally too to monitor and prevent any such movements or activities. As of date, no such activities or movements, including those having international connections have been detected or intercepted.

9. Law enforcement agencies have been advised to take all necessary measures to prevent the occurrence of terrorist or related activities internally and to remain vigilant. Special security measures have been taken for the protection of the premises and personnel of diplomatic missions and international organizations.

10. The Department of Immigration and Passport, which operates at all international airports and border check-posts, have been advised to exercise extra vigilance in verifying travel documents and through enforcement of stricter border controls to prevent the movement of terrorists and suspected persons.

11. The Civil Aviation Authority circulated special directives and taken specific anti-hijacking measures and for strengthening security in all airports and aircraft movements. All visitors, passengers and luggage entering or leaving airports are subjected to checking at all points. The movement of staff and other persons in and around airport areas are also closely monitored. Security arrangements have been strengthened in the airports and adjacent areas.

12. Bangladesh is a State Party to three of the UN Conventions relating to terrorism, as well as to the SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism. The government is in the process of examining the remaining international instruments with a view to possible ratification/accession. In addition to the anti-terrorism instruments, Bangladesh is a State Party to almost all the major international instruments relating to human rights, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Convention against Torture and the Convention on the Safety of UN and Associated Personnel.

13. As a State Party to relevant UN instruments relating to terrorism and human rights, Bangladesh has enacted and modified relevant laws for their effective implementation at the national level. Among laws enacted are the Women and Children Repression Act 2000, and amendments to the relevant sections of the Penal Code, the Explosives and Arms Act and the Extradition Act.

14. As a State Party to the SAARC Convention on Terrorism, and for effective regional efforts, Bangladesh has already established a national focal point for exchange of information on terrorist activities within the SAARC countries. In this respect, Bangladesh believes that modern communication facilities among the regional focal points and increased dissemination of information would be effective in combating terrorism at the regional level.

**Assistance:**

In the course of the implementation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), Bangladesh would welcome technical support and assistance for modernizing border control and immigration procedures and banking mechanisms, including through computerization and training of personnel. Bangladesh also believes that exchange of information and coordination of efforts at the regional level would effectively contribute towards combating terrorism.

The Government of Bangladesh remains committed to all international efforts, including the full implementation of the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001) to combat terrorism in all its manifestations and forms.